

Appln. of: Mills
Serial No.: 10/710,723
Filed: July 30, 2004

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-17 and 39-70 are pending in this application.

Claims 53-70 have been allowed.

Claims 39/1-3, 42/39/1-3 and 43/39/1-3 stand rejected under 37 CFR 1.75(c).

Claims 39, 42 and 43 have been amended to overcome this rejection.

Claims 1-3, 4/1-4/3, 5/1-5/3, 8/1-8/3, 9/1-9/3, 10/1-10/3, 11/1-11/3, 12/1-12/3, 13/1-13/3, 39/1-39/3, 40/39/1-40/39/3, 41/39/1-41/39/3, 43/39/1-43/39/3, 44/39/1-44/39/3, and 52/39/1-52/39/3 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Kuethe

Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Claim 1 requires, *inter alia* (emphasis added):

each of said control features initiating and positionally stabilizing a laminar-to-turbulent boundary layer transition to a location upon the respective fan blade between said control feature and the respective fan blade's trailing edge so that an aggregate limited stress occurring in the turbofan assembly at a mounting of the respective fan blade to the fan disc is substantially maintained below fifty megapascals during flight within the aircraft's operating envelope

Claim 2 is identical to claim 1 except for the amount of aggregate limited stress, as noted below (emphasis added):

each of said control features initiating and positionally stabilizing a laminar-to-turbulent boundary layer transition to a location upon the respective fan blade between said control feature and the respective fan blade's trailing edge so that an aggregate limited stress occurring in the turbofan assembly at a mounting of the respective fan blade to the fan disc is substantially maintained below twenty megapascals during flight within the aircraft's operating envelope

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Claim 3 is identical to claims 1 and 2 except for the amount of aggregate limited stress, as noted below (emphasis added):

each of said control features initiating and positionally stabilizing a laminar-to-turbulent boundary layer transition to a location upon the respective fan blade between said control feature and the respective fan blade's trailing edge so that an aggregate limited stress occurring in the turbofan assembly at a mounting of the respective fan blade to the fan disc is substantially maintained below ten megapascals during flight within the aircraft's operating envelope

The Examiner's rejection completely ignores the underlined language in each of claims 1-3. The Examiner states: "each of the control features initiating and positionally stabilizing a laminar-to-turbulent boundary layer transition to a location upon the respective fan blade between the control feature and the respective fan blade's trailing edge (col. 1, lines 59-66); and wherein an aggregate limited stress occurring in the turbofan assembly at a mounting of the respective fan blade to the fan disc is inherently composed at least partially by fluctuating stresses." This rejection of each of claims 1-3 morphs certain of the limitations of each of claims 1-3 with claim 4 while ignoring the underlined limitations of the three claims "is substantially maintained below fifty/twenty/ten megapascals during flight within the aircraft's operating envelope"

Nothing is said by the Examiner with regard to these three limitations.

Therefore, the Examiner has failed to make even a *prima facie* rejection of claims 1-3 in view of Kuethe.

Further, nothing in Kuethe discloses or suggests such missing limitations. The Examiner cannot state that Kuethe *inherently* discloses such limitations without a specific and

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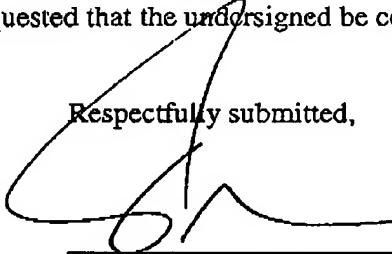
detailed explanation as to why there is such inherent disclosure. Applicant does not believe there is any such inherent disclosure.

For these reasons, the Examiner's rejection of claims 1-3 under Kuethe must fail and should be withdrawn.

The remaining claims all depend from claims 1-3 and are believed allowable for the same reasons as given above with respect to claims 1-3, as well as for the further limitations contained therein. Therefore, it is respectfully requested that the remaining rejections of the claims be withdrawn as well.

In view of the above, it is believed that the application is in condition for allowance and such a Notice is respectfully requested. If anything else is needed to place the application in condition for allowance, it is kindly requested that the undersigned be contacted.

Respectfully submitted,



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